

**HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL****Decision Report**

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Communities
<b>Date:</b>	27 September 2010
<b>Title:</b>	Request for funding for the Hart Neighbourhood Centre via the Hampshire Action Team for Hart and Rushmoor
<b>Reference:</b>	1916
<b>Report From:</b>	Chief Executive

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## **1. Executive Summary**

- 1.1. The purpose of this paper is to seek approval for funding of £25,000 to Hart Neighbourhood Centre for this year only from the Hart and Rushmoor HAT Community Budget

## **2. Contextual information**

- 2.1. Hart Neighbourhood Centre (HNC) is a high profile community development organisation. It primarily supports people in Hart District but also parts of Basingstoke and Deane and parts of Rushmoor Borough.
- 2.2. HNC became a registered charity on the 9<sup>th</sup> of October 2008. Checks have been made to verify it is a bona fide organisation with the Charity Commission.
- 2.3. HNC provides community services that are not available elsewhere to groups of people who are outside of mainstream support. HNC also bridges gaps in services by providing stepping stone projects which are free and easily accessible and support learning locally.
- 2.4. Since becoming a registered charity in 2008, HNC has been successful in being awarded grants to fund projects. However, these sources generally will not fund running costs without which, project development, management and evaluation cannot take place. Current experience demonstrates that securing £40,000 to sustain Management and Co-ordination, enables project funding of up to 4 times this amount to be raised, therefore HNC are able to attract funds to deliver over £100,000 worth of service delivery each year.
- 2.5. HNC is currently in the process of ensuring it is “commission ready” - to tender for contracts which will ensure sustainability of projects in the future. It is also running a number of projects that have, or are in the process of becoming self-funding. The HAT funding will provide the HNC with the stability needed to develop its activities whilst these longer term processes are being put into place over the next 12 months.

### **3. Finance**

- 3.1. The total funding allocation for the Hart and Rushmoor HAT is £95,000. The amount currently remaining is £42,600.
- 3.2 The amount of funding requested is £25,000 and the detail of the bid is set out in the application form accompanying this report (Appendix C).

### **4. Legal Implications**

- 4.1. The County Council has the power under S137 (3) of the Local Government Act 1972 to incur expenditure on contributions to any of the following funds,
  - (a) the funds of any charitable body in furtherance of its work in the United Kingdom;
  - (b) the funds of any body which provides any public service (whether to the public at large or to any section of it) in the United Kingdom otherwise than for the purposes of gain;

HNC is a registered Charity and therefore eligible for a grant under S137 (3).

### **5. Monitoring**

- 5.1 The intended outcomes of the project are outlined in the application form accompanying this report (Appendix C, page 5).
- 5.2 A detailed monitoring report setting out the final outcomes of the project will be sent out for completion at the end of the project.

### **6. Other key issues**

- 6.1. There are no other key issues associated with this request.

### **7. Statements of Support**

- 7.1. This application received majority support from HAT members at a meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> of August 2010.
- 7.2. Details of the application were sent to the Executive Member for Culture and Recreation and relevant officers in CCRA, no adverse comments were received.
- 7.3. Cllr Adrian Collett declared an interest as a Trustee of the Hart Neighbourhood Centre (representing the Police Authority who own the building).
- 7.4. Cllr Jonathan Glen declared an interest as he holds monthly surgeries at the Hart Neighbourhood Centre.

### **8. Recommendation**

- 8.1. That £25,000 of funding be awarded to Hart Neighbourhood Centre from the Hart and Rushmoor HAT Community Budget for 2010/11 only, with no expectation for future years.

**CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:  
Links to the Corporate Strategy**

<b>Hampshire safer and more secure for all:</b>	Yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Maximising well-being:</b>	Yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Enhancing our quality of place:</b>	Yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

**Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents**

**The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)**

Document

Location

None

**IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:**

**1. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

1.1. The HNC works directly with vulnerable and disadvantaged groups in Hart. Their projects includes working with those who are unemployed or on low wages, gypsies and travellers, victims of domestic abuse, young people who are not in education, employment or training, older isolated people, people with mental health problems and people for whom English is a second language.

**2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:**

2.1. The diversionary activities provided for young people in the summer holidays and evenings have actually produced a fall in the number of anti-social behaviour incidents in the district of Hart. The health walks have helped a number of older people to feel safer walking around their local areas. The work with victims of domestic abuse has helped to raise awareness of services available to this group and the need to report abuse.

**3. Climate Change**

3.1. There is no adverse impact arising from this report.